

Honor Student Dies After Radical Heart Surgery

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Torrance Herald

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COUNCIL BACKS FIREMAN LAYOFF

Split Vote Backs Board On Findings

The city council this week made the one-week suspension of Fireman Richard DeArmitt official in a 4-2 vote after reconsidering the matter at its mid-week meeting.

Brought up by Councilman Willys G. Blount, who explained that he was absent when the matter was considered previously, the council voted to reconsider the case, and then voted to confirm the decision of the Civil Service Commission that DeArmitt be suspended for one week.

DeARMITT was charged by Fire Chief J. J. Benner with violating city and state codes during the campaign before the April municipal election by displaying campaign stickers on his vehicle which was parked near the central fire station at Crenshaw and Carson St.

Blount asked for reconsideration of the matter Wednesday night after commenting that the council's previous action in filing the recommendation of the Civil Service Commission without confirming it was not "the proper way to handle it."

ON A NEW motion to concur with the findings; the council majority voted to confirm the suspension.

Councilmen Victor Benstead and George Vico opposed the concurrence while Blount, George Bradford, J. A. Beasley, and Mayor Isen voted for it.

Councilman Nick Draie, one of the candidates for whom DeArmitt allegedly campaigned, is out of the city and did not vote Wednesday. He had opposed the suspension in the previous consideration.

Pair Nabbed For Raiding School Area

Increased police patrols of Torrance schools paid off last week, with the arrest of two men charged with stealing construction tools from Towers Elementary School.

The pair was arrested by police after neighbors reported that two "strange acting" men were in the neighborhood. Questioned by police, they were unable to account for their presence.

The previous night, several thousand dollars worth of equipment had been stolen from a construction shack of the Herbert J. Goldsworthy Co. A company official said that a great deal of equipment had been taken over a period of several months.

The peculiar corrugated soles of one of the men's shoes matched tracks found at the scene following earlier thefts, police said.

Several months ago, police and school officials agreed on increased patrols for local schools. Last year, burglaries and vandalism cost taxpayers more than \$25,000 at the schools.

Fight Against Terrible Odds Lasts 53 Days

A valiant, 53-day struggle against incomparable odds ended quietly yesterday for 18-year-old Carol Ann Pearson, who underwent her third major heart operation recently.

Miss Pearson, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Pearson of 117 Via Mesa Grande, was born in Honolulu shortly after Pearl Harbor was bombed by the Japanese in 1941. An honor student, she was graduated from Torrance High School with the Class of '59.

SUFFERING from a congenital heart malfunction, she underwent the third and most radical surgery at St. John's Hospital in Santa Monica earlier this year. Her temperature was chilled to 60 degrees, and a complete heart and lung machine was put into use during the surgery which lasted more than 15 hours.

At the time it was described as one of the most radical heart operations ever attempted.

TEACHERS of the Torrance Unified School District, former classmates, and scores of friends contributed blood during the crucial days.

Friends were told Miss Pearson had a fair chance for recovery after the daring surgery. Despite what one of Miss Pearson's former teachers described as a "most courageous battle," she died yesterday.

FUNERAL SERVICES will be held Tuesday afternoon at the White and Day Colonial Mortuary in Redondo Beach at 3 p.m. with the Rev. C. Gunner Emanuel of the First Baptist Church of Redondo Beach officiating.

Miss Pearson was a life member of the California Scholarship Federation, and was the recipient of the American Legion award during her senior year at Torrance High School. Her mother, Ruth Pearson, is librarian at Torrance High School.

IN ADDITION to her parents, Miss Pearson is survived by a sister, Frances, a student at South High School; her grandmother, Mrs. A.L. Geery, of Redondo Beach, an aunt, Mrs. Ivan McElroy, 144 Via Los Miradores; an uncle, E.E. Gerry of Inglewood; and an aunt, Opal Mills, of Los Angeles.

Interment will be in Pacific Crest Cemetery.



VICTIM CONSOLED . . . Denise Draper, 11, of 8427 Reynolds Drive, is being comforted by Mrs. Kirby Davis of Lomita after the girl was hit by an auto along Linda Drive near Sunnyview Thursday afternoon. With the pair is Officer Ralph Bezanson of the Torrance Police Department. Driver of the car was identified as William M. Ferkin, 32, of 2754 Vanderhill Road. The girl was taken to Torrance Memorial Hospital with head injuries. (Herald Photo)

City Plunge Now Open; Summer Should Hit Soon

"C'm on in, gang; the water's fine!"

This shout is heard from Torrance Municipal plunge these days as the pool at 3331 Torrance Blvd. begins its summer schedule, although the city has been experiencing weather which could hardly qualify as genuine summer weather.

Weekday mornings are devoted to learn-to-swim session, but afternoons, evenings and week-ends find the pool crowded with happy splashers.

GENERAL swimming hours are 1 until 4:30 and 7 until 9:30 p.m. weekdays; 9 a.m. until noon and 1 until 5 p.m. Saturdays, noon until 6 p.m. Sundays. Thursday evening is family night and the "adults only" sign is out Friday evenings.

Admission is 20 cents for children under 13 years of age and 25 cents for all persons of 13 years and older.

OTHER NEW activities of the Torrance Recreation Dept. slated this week include start

Former City Planner Dies In Merced

Funeral services for Roy S. Whitcomb, a long time Torrance resident and poultry rancher, and a member of the city's planning commission for nine years, were held yesterday afternoon in the First Christian Church at Merced, Calif., with the Rev. Sam Anderson officiating.

Mr. Whitcomb, who retired recently and moved to LeGrand, Calif., died Wednesday in a Merced hospital after a short illness.

He is survived by his widow, Edith, of LeGrand; a sister, Mrs. Margaret Suckland of Quincy, Ill., and a brother, Leslie Whitcomb, of Wilmington.

Services were held in the Mission Chapel of the Ivers and Alcorn Mortuary in Merced. Interment was in Plainsburg Cemetery, LeGrand.

of housewives' summer bowling league and a trip to Disneyland for teenagers. (Continued on Page 2)

Area Boy Scout Troops Selling American Flags

Fifty thousand Boy Scouts and their 20,000 leaders are making it possible for every home in Los Angeles and surrounding areas to fly the American flag during patriotic holidays.

The Cubs, Scouts and Explorers, members of the Los Angeles Area Council, are selling a new, 50-star flag to homeowners and businesses.

THEY ARE undertaking this patriotic public service during the year of Scouting's 50th anniversary in America.

Flags for the home are high quality two-ply cotton, three feet by five feet, with a six-foot pole, and brackets for attachment.

This "kit" of flag, pole, bracket, screws, and halyard sells for just \$4.25.

LARGER FLAGS for buildings and offices may be ordered directly through the Los Angeles Area Council office, 2333 Scout Way, Los Angeles 26.

Any profits realized from the sale of flags will be used to further the camping program of the Los Angeles Area Council, and make it possible for each unit to have a summer camping experience, or special activities in the case of Cub Scouts.

AMERICAN FLAGS should be flown Flag Day, June 14;

and Independence Day, July 4, officials have said.



FLAG SALESMEN . . . Representing area Boy Scouts are these three young men who display the American flag kit being sold by Scout troops. From left are Charles Brugnola, member of Scout Troop 242; Bill Spindler, member of Cub Pack 733-C; and Bill Osborn, member of Explorer Post 242-X. (Herald Photo)

A Penny for your Thoughts

"What is your favorite form of entertainment or relaxation?"

Answering were:

Mrs. Manuel Dominguez, 187 E. 208th St., housewife:

"We enjoy the park or the beach . . . well really anywhere where we can take the children and go as a family. We like the out-of-doors so we barbecue a lot right in our own backyard because the children have their little pool there and we have a real enjoyable time together."



Norman Gregory, 18823 Cranbrook, housewife:

"My favorite form of recreation and relaxation personally is dancing. I love to dance and feel it gives me a chance to get away from the everyday worries. Besides that I meet so many interesting people. My husband plays in a band and I enjoy going with him when he plays."

Robert Turner, 2260 W. 236th Pl., 7th grade student, Howard Wood School:

"I like T.V.; such programs as 'American Bandstand,' 'Rifleman,' and John Gunther's 'High Road' because they offer me good entertainment and something to do when there is nothing else to do. I think it's good for relaxation too."

Mrs. L. E. Trotter, 21318 S. Western Ave., housewife:

"I suppose you'd say my favorite recreation is sewing. I like to sew both by hand and by machine, and I like making children's clothes because it seems they always need them and it's something I can do. It gives me something I can do for my grandchildren and they always appreciate it so much. I like doing things for others."

Mrs. Marilyn Mercer, 513 W. 224th Place, housewife:

"I like to bowl, though I don't get to go very often. I also like to play miniature golf but of course with the baby we don't get a chance to go as often as we'd like to. We like these two games because we feel that we don't have to concentrate on them too much and it gives us a chance to relax."



CAROL PEARSON.

Rodeo Queen

The annual search for a rodeo queen to preside over festivities on the week end of July 30 and 31 was launched here yesterday, according to Lt. D. C. Cook, rodeo chairman.

Entry blanks are available at the Chamber of Commerce.



SCHOOLS' OUT . . . Most schools in Torrance held short sessions Friday and students spent the rest of the morning saying good byes and signing annuals. Pictured on steps at Torrance High exchanging signatures are clockwise: Richard Hollins, Carolyn Shire, Chris Parrich, Suki Shirley, Dave Cooper, Nan Shirley and Bruce Norman. (Herald Photo)